

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-07 NSCE-00 L-02 SP-02

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 SSO-00

(ISO) W

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R 241015Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 928

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 7397

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, LA

SUBJECT: LAO PRIME MINISTER'S PLANS

REF: PARIS 22412

1. I DISCUSSED REFTEL WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR CARDI TODAY IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER HE HAD ANY RECENT INFORMATION ON THE STATE OF SOUVANNA'S HEALTH. CARDI SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD FROM PRINCESS MOUNE AND PRINCESS TIANE THAT THINGS WERE GOING VERY WELL AND WAS SURPRISED AT MOUNE'S MISGIVINGS REGARDING THE DESIRABILITY OF SOUVANNA'S RETURNING TO LAOS IN EARLY OCTOBER.

2. CARDI MENTIONED THAT, AS WE KNEW, WORK HAS BARELY BEGUN ON THE MODIFICATIONS BEING MADE ON SOUVANNA'S HOUSE IN VIENTIANE. IT APPEARED TO CARDI AND ME THAT A LONG STAY IN LUANG PRABANG WOULD BE IEVITABLE. HE SAID HE WOULD COMMUNICATE WITH PARIS REGARDING SOUVANNA'S RETURN AND WOULD HINT THAT AN EXTENDED CONVALESCENCE IN LUANG PRABANG WAS NOT DESIRABLE GIVEN THE LACK OF MEDICAL FACILITIES THERE.

WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI07397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740269-0194
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740917/aaaaaoge.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: PARIS 22412
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAO PRIME MINISTER'S PLANS
TAGS: OVIP, LA, (SOUVANNA PHOUMA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005